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New facts on the distribution of *Tauraco ruspolii* Salvadori

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Prince Ruspoli's Turaco remained for a long time only known from the type; the exact locality at which it was collected is still unknown (after considering Prince Ruspoli's itinerary, Moreau (1958) suggests that the specimen might have come from Arero). Some fifty years later, C. W. Benson rediscovered the species at Arero in Sidamo, at 4° 48' N., 38° 50' E., and an altitude of about 1800 m., and obtained five birds. In his 1945 paper, Benson suggests that future workers look for the species around Neghelli (Sidamo).

In the course of the expedition of the Laboratoire d'Ornithologie (Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle) to Ethiopia in 1968, we prospected the Neghelli area but failed to find this turaco. On the other hand we were successful in the montane forests between Wadera and Zembaba in Sidamo, ca 80 km. north of Neghelli, at 5° 40' N., 39° 20' E., and an altitude of 1800 m., where we found *T. ruspolii* on 22nd and 23rd May in juniper woods with dense evergreen undergrowth (the same habitat as at Arero).

In an area of about 150 ha we recorded six birds which probably concerned four different pairs. Two collected females showed ovaries the largest follicles of which measured respectively 1 and 2 mm. in diameter: obviously the birds were not breeding.

This new locality is situated about 120 km. to the north-north-east of Arero, and is particularly interesting because we found there within 5 km., both *T. ruspolii* and *T. leucotis*, the former in the juniper, the latter in the broad-leaved forests. This appears to be the first proof of geographical (but not ecological) sympatry between the two species; so the statements of Moreau (1958) and Hall & Moreau (1962) that they could possibly be conspecific no longer hold good.

Recently, J. H. R. Boswall informed us that several years ago a Swedish taxidermist in Addis-Ababa prepared two *T. ruspolii* collected in the same area as ours. One of the specimens was sold to tourists while the other was sent to a museum in the U.S.A.

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